9th August 1929]

## Industries

*Recruitment of apprentices by the Public Works Department and Industrial Engineer's workshop.*

*154 Q.—Sriman BISWANATH DAS Mahasayo : Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) the sanctioned number of apprentices and also the number of those recruited by the Public Works Department and Industrial Engineer's workshop every year;

(b) how many of these are kept on wage system in each of these two workshops;

(c) whether the Government have examined the question of keeping a definite number of seats in clause (b) for the benefit of mufassal students who join the Madras Trades School; and

(d) whether they have examined the question of keeping on the wage system such of the mufassal students who are apprentices in any of the two workshops and who had been also students of the Trades School ?

A.—(a) to (d) *Industrial Engineering workshop.*—There is no regular system of apprenticeship in the Industrial Engineering workshop. There are however at present three apprentices in the workshop who attend the Madras Trades School. They are paid wages according to their capabilities. They are mufassal students who have joined the Madras Trades School. The workshop is too small to admit of the entertainment of any considerable number of apprentices.

*Public Works Workshops, Madras.*—The sanctioned number of apprentices in the Public Works Workshops at Madras is six and this number is admitted every year. All the apprentices are kept on the wage system. No seats are reserved separately for applicants from the mufassal. Of the 30 apprentices now on the rolls 24 are from the mufassal.

It may be mentioned in this connexion that the Government have sanctioned twelve scholarships of the value of Rs 20 tenable for four years for the help of poor students from the mufassal who are attending the Madras Trades School.

Sriman BISWANATH DAS Mahasayo :—"With reference to the second paragraph of the answer, may I ask whether only the six apprentices, or all the 30 apprentices are kept on the wage system ?"

The hon. Mr. M. R. SETURATNAM AYYAR :—"All the thirty I believe."

Sriman BISWANATH DAS Mahasayo :—"Regarding the scholarship of Rs. 20 tenable for four years, may I know when the payment of scholarship was begun and the basis on which it is distributed ?"

The hon. Mr. M. R. SETURATNAM AYYAR :—"This year; there is no basis for it; some scholarships that were given to the students studying in the Bombay institute have been diverted to the local institute."

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"Have the Government any proposal before them for extending the Industrial Engineering workshop seeing that it is very small ?"

[9th August 1929

The hon. Mr. M. R. Seturatnam Ayyar :—" Not at present."

Mr. J. A. Saldanha :—" Will the Government take any steps in the matter in view of the necessity of extending the workshop ? "

The hon. Mr. M. R. Seturatnam Ayyar :—" We have yet to consider that question."

*Action taken on the reports of the Special Officer in regard to Cottage Industries.*

* 155 *Q.*—Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar : Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state the particulars of the action taken or proposed to be taken on the reports of the Special Officer in regard to Cottage Industries in the several districts where their survey has been completed ?

*A.*—The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer given to question No. 1339 in February 1929. The appendix to that answer contains a summary of the action taken till then on the recommendations of the Special Officer for the Survey of Cottage Industries on the Industries in the Ceded Districts and in the four southern districts. Further action taken with reference to these industries is indicated in Appendix A [a] while Appendix B[a] summarizes the action taken on some of the industries in the Malabar, South Kanara, the Nilgiris and Guntur districts. The Government considered it unnecessary to take up the reports of the remaining districts as by the time these reports were received by them the Presidency Report had been completed by the Special Officer and the district reports were found to contain few specific recommendations for the improvement or revival of local industries. The Government propose to deal with such points as call for action in these reports as well as the recommendations of the Special Officer which are of a general character and are common to all or most of the districts when examining the Presidency Report.

Mr. L. K. Tulasiram :—" May I ask whether the hon. Minister for Development will try to start some schools to demonstrate the feasibility of improving these cottage industries ? "

The hon. Mr. M. R. Seturatnam Ayyar :—" My hon. Friend may be aware that a committee will be appointed in consequence of the resolution passed yesterday ; that committee will consider such questions."

Mr. L. K. Tulasiram :—" I find that co-operative societies are being started for the development of several industries which have been recommended by the Special Officer. Apart from that, will the Government be pleased to state whether they intend to start schools for demonstrating that these industries can be easily started ? "

The hon. the President :—" Before I admit the supplementary question, I wish to know whether it is one of the recommendations of the Special Officer."

Mr. L. K. Tulasiram :—" It is one of the recommendations made by the Special Officer, Mr. President."

---

[a] Printed as Appendix II on pages 425-428 infra.